BERNARD LEONARD AND JACOB BLACK.

DECEMBER 27, 1831.

Mr. BULLARD, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, made the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom has been referred the petition of Bernard Leonard and Jacob Black, have had the same under consideration, and report:

That it appears to the satisfaction of the committee, that Peter Young, David Durham, Nathaniel Hickman, and Isaiah Hickman, severally made improvements and cultivated lands on the south side of Red river, and east of the Sabine, in the tract of country mentioned and designated in the act of Congress, approved on the 3d March, 1823, relative to land titles in that part of Louisiana between the Rio Hondo and the Sabine, as the "neutral territory;" that their settlements were made many years previous to the treaty of limits between Spain and the United States, of the 22d February, 1819, and have been kept up ever since. Under the act of Congress, passed subsequently to the one above mentioned, confirming the claims reported by the Register and Receiver for the Western district of Louisiana, by which actual settlers previously to the treaty of 1819, were confirmed in their claim to the quantity of six hundred and forty acres each, the claimants would have been clearly entitled to that quantity, if their cases had been embraced in the report made by said Register and Receiver.

The petitioners claim as assignees of the original settlers, and the reason why the necessary proof was not made before the commissioners has been

sufficiently explained.

The committee, believing their claims to be just, report a bill.

BERNARD LEGNARD AND JACOB HEACH